

DOORA BAREFIELD PARISH NEWSLETTER

Mass Times

Church of Our Lady, Roslevan	
Daily Mass Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri	9.30am
Saturday Vigil Mass	6pm
St. Breacan's Church, Doora	
Sunday	9.45am
Immaculate Conception, Barefield	
Sunday	11.15am
Tuesday	9.30am



Contacts

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Opening Hours:
Mon & Tues: 9am-5pm; Wed: 9am-1pm
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<http://www.facebook.com/doorabarefieldparish>.

Third Sunday of Advent (Year B) 17th December 2023

GAUDETE SUNDAY – REJOICE BECAUSE THE LORD IS VERY NEAR!

This Sunday is known as Gaudete Sunday, a day when we are called to rejoice, to find joy in the midst of our waiting and preparation for the coming of the Lord. Gaudete Sunday calls us to embrace joy as an integral part of our Advent journey. It challenges us to find joy not only in the fulfilment of our desires but, more importantly, in the promises of God. As we continue our Advent pilgrimage, let us heed the words of St. Paul today: *"Be happy at all times; pray constantly and for all things give thanks."* The pink candle we light on the Advent wreath today symbolizes this sense of joy. Amidst the violet candles representing penance and preparation, the pink candle reminds us that even in the midst of our spiritual disciplines, there is room for joy. It is a joy that anticipates the coming of the Light of the World, the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

At the beginning of St. John's Gospel, we encounter the profound imagery of the Word becoming flesh, the Light shining in the darkness, and the darkness not overcoming it. Within this tapestry of theological beauty, the figure of John the Baptist emerges today as a crucial character, a herald preparing the way for the One who is to come. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light." In a world shrouded in shadows and uncertainty, John the Baptist stands as a beacon, a herald, a voice crying out in the wilderness, calling us to turn our hearts toward the coming Light. John the Baptist did not seek the spotlight for himself; rather, he directed attention to the true Light. As we navigate our lives, do

we radiate the light of Christ in our words and actions, or do we contribute to the prevailing darkness?

John's acknowledgment of his unworthiness challenges us to examine the posture of our hearts. Are we filled with a sense of entitlement, self-importance, or pride? Or, like John, do we humbly recognize the surpassing worth of Christ and acknowledge our dependence on His grace? The Gospel invites us to kneel before the majesty of Christ, recognizing that our worth comes from being beloved children of God, and not from worldly achievements or accolades.

May this Gaudete Sunday be a moment of profound rejoicing, a joy that emanates from the knowledge that our Saviour is near. Let us prepare our hearts with hope, penance, and generosity, so that when the Christ child comes, He may find in us a dwelling place filled with the true and lasting joy that comes from a deep relationship with Him.



Priest on Duty: 17th December, 2023
Contact Fr. Tom Fitzpatrick Tel. 065 6869098

Remembered in Masses this week
CHURCH OF OUR LADY
ROSLEVAN

16th Dec: Carmel Devane, Newpark, Roslevan.
 Stephen Killeen, Knockanean.
23rd Dec: Mary Cabey, Lios Ard, Tulla Rd.
 Vincent Gardner, Roslevan.

ST. BRECAN'S CHURCH, DOORA

17th Dec: Margaret McMahon, Ballyglass.
 Thomas & Josephine Heffernan &
 & John McInerney, Noughaval.
24th Dec 9pm: John & Teresa Carolan, Spencilhill.

Church of the Immaculate
Conception, Barefield

17th Dec: Mary & Jimmy Whelan, Barefield.
 Claire Curran, Drumgranagh.
 Tom Mulhern, Parnell Grove.
24th Dec 7.30pm: Peggy & Dan Murray, Killarney.

9.30am Mass each Tuesday in Barefield Church.
Novena Mass in Church of Our Lady each Monday 9.30am

Finance Development Fund

10th November

Barefield: €181

Doora: €242

Church of Our Lady: €152

Development: €1,344

Mile Buiochas

Church of Our Lady Basket Collector

16th Dec: Dan Lenihan & Tom Heath
 23rd Dec: Michael Williams/Paul Mockler

Doora Sacristan Rota

17th Dec: Anne Marie Custy
 24th Dec: Owen O'Mahony

REST IN PEACE

Remember in your prayers



Rose Lahiffe,
 Ballymaley.



Morgan Lahiffe,
 Cork & Barefield,

Brother of Charlotte Fitzgerlad & Moira O'Connor.

Joan Giblin

Carrick on Suir,
 Mother of Catherine Flynn, Tulla Road.

Now in God's hands, forever in our hearts



Ministers of Eucharist
& Readers



Church of Our Lady

16th TBohannon/MOCallaghan/KMorris
 23rd TBohannon/MOCallaghan/KMorris
 24th Vigil TBohannon/MOCallaghan/KMorris
 25th TBohannon/MOCallaghan/KMorris

Claire Cremin
 Joe Dilleen
 Joe Dilleen
 Bridget Hoey

Immaculate Conception, Barefield

17th: MHassett/LMurphy
 24th NKennedy/LCorcoran
 24th Vigil CLeamy/MDowling
 25th MWhyte/JDevitt

Maeve O'Donnell
 Michael Clohessy
 David Culligan
 Bernard Casey

St. Brecan's, Doora

17th Maria Considine
 24th Vigil Martha Neylon
 25th Owen O'Mahony

Michael Cusack
 Patricia Clune
 Mary Corry



Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve Sunday: St. Brecans, Doora: 9.45am
 Immaculate Conception, Barefield: 11.15am

Christmas Eve Vigil Masses

Church of Our Lady, Roslevan 6pm
 Immaculate Conception, Barefield 7.30pm
 St. Brecan's, Doora 9pm

Christmas Day Masses

Church of Our Lady, Roslevan 9am
 St. Brecan's, Doora 10am
 Immaculate Conception, Barefield: 11.15pm

Christmas Confessions

Church of Our Lady, Roslevan

Tues 19th Dec 7pm

Immaculate Conception, Barefield

Thurs 21st Dec 7pm

St. Brecan's Doora

Fri 22nd Dec 7pm

Parish Office Christmas Holidays

The Parish Office will close on Wednesday
 20th Dec. at 1pm and will re-open on Tues.
 2nd January at 9am. If urgent, kindly contact
 the Priest on duty. Tel. 065 686 9098.





**Abbey Pastoral Area
Advent Reconciliation Service
Monday 18th December 7.30pm
Cathedral, Ennis
All Welcome**

Christmas Triduum Mass Bouquet Cards

with images of our churches now available in the porches of our three churches and also in Parish Office during office hours. €3 per Mass Bouquet.



Carol Service & Nativity Play at Church of the Immaculate Conception, Barefield on Wednesday 20th December at 7pm. All welcome.

PRIESTS' CHRISTMAS COLLECTION

Priests' Christmas Collection takes place on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day in our parish. This is one of four collections in the year for our priests. Envelope in parish donation box or now available in porches of our three churches.

You can also donate on line on www.doorabarefieldparish.ie/donate using the Priests' Collections tab or by scanning the QR code. **Many thanks to all for your continued generosity to our parish.**



SVP Annual Appeal

Many Families will face impossible choices this Christmas. You can help. Please support the SVP Annual Appeal by giving locally.

Ways to donate:

Online: <https://www.svp.ie/fundraiser/clare-christmas-appeal-2023/>

By phone: 0818 176 176 and nominate your local area

By post: to SVP, Vincent's Shop, 86 Parnell Street, Ennis. Cheques made payable to 'Society of St. Vincent de Paul' and nominate your local area.

Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.



Gaudete Sunday A Prayer of Hope



Lord God, we are determined to be people of faith, to share with all, your gospel of hope, love and grace.
Yet, it is hard to remain hopeful in a world that is broken and failing. It is hard to be filled with love for the other when loss and fear suffocates us and them.
And how can there be grace when hate buries love?
And yet, you call us to rejoice.
And so, we remember that no matter how dark the present hour, you are with us. Your mighty arm protects us, your spirit fills us. You will never forget or forsake us.
This we know: even in the absence of all other hope or love, you are with us. Emmanuel.
And so, rejoice we shall, no matter what rages around or against or within us. Our souls shall magnify you O Lord, for you are with us, even when all else that we trust is gone.
Lord, we gather here so that the fire you have planted in each of us will strengthen and grow: becoming a mighty flame that brings hope where there is none, encouraging love to grow where it has too long been gone, and extinguishing fear in the hearts of all.
We rejoice in each other. We rejoice in our faith. And, we rejoice in your presence here this morning. In all things we shall rejoice, **Amen**

Our Parish Calendar is now available for collection in the porches of our Church.



Please also take for family, neighbours and friends.

Parish Parent & Toddler Group closed on 12th December and will re-open on 9th January next. Happy Christmas to all!

please note

Mass Readers are asked to collect from the Sacristy a St. Paul Sunday Missal for 2024. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Doora Barefield GAA Lotto
Next weeks Jackpot €5,000**

Winners of €50

Chrissy Casey c/o Meeres
AM Darmody, Ennis
John Halpin, Cappahard
Sharon Regan, Fountain



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Today's Scripture Readings

Entrance Antiphon
Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I say, rejoice
Indeed, the Lord is near.

PENITENTIAL RITE

P. Have mercy on us, O Lord

C. For we have sinned against you.

P. Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

C. And grant us your salvation.

P. May almighty God have mercy on us,
forgive us our sins, and bring us to ever
lasting life.

C. Amen.

A reading from the prophet Isaiah Is 61:1-2.10-11

The spirit of the Lord
has been given to me,
for the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring good news
to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken;
to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord.
'I exult for joy in the Lord,
my soul rejoices in my God,
for he has clothed me
in the garments of salvation,
he has wrapped me
in the cloak of integrity,
like a bridegroom wearing his wreath,
like a bride adorned in her jewels.'
'For as the earth makes fresh things grow,
as a garden makes seeds spring up,
so will the Lord make both integrity and
praise spring up in the sight of nations.'

The word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm
My soul rejoices in my God.

My soul glorifies the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.
He looks on his servant
in her nothingness;
henceforth all ages will call me blessed. **R**

The Almighty works marvels for me.
Holy his name!
His mercy is from age to age,
on those who fear him. **R**

He fills the starving with good things,
sends the rich away empty.
He protects Israel, his servant,
remembering his mercy. **R**

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians. 1 Th 5:16-24

Be happy at all times; pray constantly; and
for all things give thanks to God, because
this is what God expects you to do in
Christ Jesus.

Never try to suppress the Spirit or treat the
gift of prophecy with contempt; think before
you do anything - hold on to what is good
and avoid every form of evil.

May the God of peace make you perfect
and holy; and may you all be kept safe and
blameless, spirit, soul and body, for the
coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has
called you and he will not fail you.

The word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation
Alleluia, alleluia!
The spirit of the Lord
has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news
to the poor.
Alleluia!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. Jn 1:6-8.19-28

A man came, sent by God.
His name was John.
He came as a witness,
as a witness to speak for the light,
so that everyone might believe through
him.
He was not the light,
only a witness to speak for the light.
This is how John appeared as a witness.
When the Jews sent priests and Levites
from Jerusalem to ask him, 'Who are you?'
he not only declared, but he declared quite
openly, 'I am not the Christ.' 'Well then,'
they asked, 'are you Elijah?' 'I am not,' he
said. 'Are you the Prophet?' He answered,
'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you?'
We must take back an answer to those
who sent us. What have you to say about
yourself?' So John said, 'I am, as Isaiah
prophesied:

a voice that cries in the wilderness:
Make a straight way for the Lord

Now these men had been sent by the
Pharisees, and they put this further ques-
tion to him, 'Why are you baptising if you
are not the Christ, and not Elijah, and not
the prophet?' John replied, 'I baptise with
water; but there stands among you -
unknown to you - the one who is coming
after me; and I am not fit to undo his sandal
-strap.' This happened at Bethany, on the
far side of the Jordan, where John was bap-
tising.

The Gospel of the Lord

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light, true God
from true God, begotten, not made, con-
substantial with the Father; through him all
things were made.
For us men and for our salvation he came
down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was
buried, and rose again on the third day in
accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at
the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the
living and the dead and his kingdom will
have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life, who proceeds from the Father
and the Son, who with the Father and the
Son is adored and glorified, who has spo-
ken through the prophets. I believe in one,
holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins and I look forward to the resurrection
of the dead and the life of the world to
come. Amen.

Communion Antiphon
Say to the faint of heart:
Be strong and do not fear.
Behold, our God will come,
and he will save us.